Transfer of all PSUs under one Ministry

3005. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil sector PSUs are diversifying into other fields like IOC into power sector and GAIL into telecom;

(b) if so, what will be the relevance of having administrative Ministry as at present;

(c) whether it will not be proper to transfer all PSUs with diversified activities under the control of one Ministry; and

(d) the Government's views in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Allocation of business to various Ministries is based on the core activities of the Ministries/Departments and the PSEs under their control. Since diversification of PSEs is supplementary to core activities, there is no proposal for any change in the present arrangement.

Sale of Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Ltd.

†3006. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that process for sale of units of the Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Ltd., situated in Muzzaffarpur and Mokama in Bihar has been initiated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985, it has been

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, New Delhi and the matter is pending there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s Ernst & Young have been appointed as Global Advisor for disinvestment. Expression of interest in BWEL was invited on 11.02.2002, in response to which only one party responded.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, the last hearing was held in BIFR on 6.3.2002, in which BIFR was informed about the disinvestment exercise. BIFR has asked BWEL to submit an updated application.

VRS for PSU employees

†3007. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are forcing the employees of PSUs to opt for VRS;

(b) if so, the details of such PSUs; and

(c) the reasons for forcing the employees to opt for VRS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Removal of capitalisation norms for vehicles

3008. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are proposing to do

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